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HANDBOOK OF THE LAW OF TORTS. By H. Gerald Chapin. St. Paul: West Publishing Co. 1917 (Hornbook Series). pp. xiv, 695.

The professed purpose of the Hornbook Series is to provide elementary treatises on all the principal subjects of the law. The series now numbers thirty-four, and in a number of instances a Hornbook has reached its third edition. One of the earliest of these publications was the valuable work of Professor Jaggard on Torts (1895). No second edition of Jaggard has appeared; perhaps it has been found desirable, in the interests of symmetry in the series, that Torts should be dealt with in one volume instead of two, as was the case with Jaggard on Torts.

Professor Chapin has written a book which accomplishes excellently the objects of the Hornbook Series, namely, a brief statement of leading principles, a more extended commentary on those principles, and a citation of authorities. But this necessarily implies limitations upon the scope of the books; a full discussion of principles is not possible. However, a handbook cannot be expected to fulfill all purposes; it cannot be at the same time an elementary treatise and an exhaustive exposition. A handbook serves the practising lawyer by placing at his disposal a condensed statement of principles, supported by references to the more important decided cases. To the student it offers an opportunity for a review of the subject with the additional light thrown upon it by a statement of it in terms sometimes differing from those with which he has become familiar in the class-room. In so far as he has been permitted by the limitations of space imposed upon him, Professor Chapin offers useful discussions of principles and authorities.

In addition to this textbook, the author has edited a small case-book on Torts. The textbook contains references in special type to the authorities contained in the case-book, and as these references occur on almost every page of the textbook, the case-book should form a convenient companion volume to the Hornbook.

Jens I. Westengard.

THE ELEMENTS OF JURISPRUDENCE. By Thomas Erskine Holland, K. C. Twelfth Edition. New York: Oxford University Press, American Branch. London: Humphrey Milford. 1916. pp. xxv, 454.

When any treatise on the Elements of Jurisprudence has passed into a twelfth edition, it is, by sheer force of that fact alone, entitled to the most profound respect. In such a case the disposition of the reviewer must be either frankly humble or frankly bold. If he be of humble turn, he will make perfunctory note that the author has here "aimed at producing a text which may be regarded as practically final"; and he will duly agree that, so far as it is within human power, Doctor Holland has accomplished his aim. After many years of vision and revision he has given us a treatise that is correct to a detail, profound and searching in its analysis, and elevated into line with the latest pertinent decisions and legislation.

Now, if he be of more adventurous disposition, he will yield to the temptation to regret that in this book practically no consideration is accorded to current studies in the science of law, particularly to recent French writings on Jurisprudence. He will be tempted to go further and register an objection to the sterile abstractions which seem to be the inevitable product of the Analytical School. According to the logical process of inclusion and exclusion, it may be accurate, but it is in no wise helpful, to define the state as "a numerous assemblage of human beings, generally occupying a certain territory, amongst whom the will of the majority, or of an ascertainable class of persons, is by the strength of such a majority, or class, made to prevail against any of their number who oppose it" (p. 46). On the other hand, according to these same